

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MUSCAT 00504 110543Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 DODE-00  
CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 OES-07 PA-01 ICA-11 AID-05  
EB-08 /080 W  
-----078250 110916Z /23

R 110400Z APR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY MUSCAT  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4222  
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA

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DEPARTMENT ALSO FOR SER/CFS (AID)

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: ECRE, MU, US  
SUBJECT: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: OMAN SEEKS ASSISTANCE FOR  
US ARMY CORPS OR ENGINEERS

1. FOREIGN MINISTER ZAWAWI CALLED AMBASSADOR TO HIS  
OFFICE APRIL 6 AND LAID DOWN REQUEST THAT USG CONSIDER  
HELPING OMANGOV STUDY FEASIBILITY OF SMALL DAMS OR  
CATCHMENT STRUCTURES AT APPROPRIATE PLACES IN MOUNTAINOUS  
INTERIOR. PURPOSES WOULD BE WATER STORAGE AND CONSER-  
VATION FOR MAXIMUM USE AFTER HEAVY RAINSTORMS IN THE  
INTERIOR, AND IN SOME CASES SIMPLY TO SLOW DOWN WATER  
RUNOFF WHICH OFTEN HAS DAMAGING IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE,  
ROADS AND SETTLEMENTS ALONG DOWNSTREAM VALLEYS. SPECI-  
FICALLY, HE ASKED IF THE ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS MIGHT  
HELP IN SOME MANNER.

2. DISCUSSION THAT ENSUED BROUGHT OUT THAT MINISTER  
WAS UNAWARE (OR AT LEAST EXPRESSED IGNORANCE) OF DETAILS  
OF STUDIES THAT OMANGOV ITSELF, OR ITS CONSULTANTS, MAY  
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HAVE MADE SO FAR. BECAME APPARENT, ALSO THAT OMANIS WELL  
AWARE OF LARGE PRESENCE OF ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS IN  
NEIGHBORING SAUDI ARABIA, THOUGH EXACT ROLE OF CORPS  
THERE SEEMS UNCLEAR TO THEM. I TOLD ZAWAWI A BIT ABOUT  
THIS, AND ALSO MADE POINT THAT IN U.S. IT IS NOT ONLY THE  
CORPS BUT ALSO BUREAU OF RECLAMATION WITHIN INTERIOR DEPT  
THAT CARRIES OUT WATER PROJECTS OF THIS NATURE FOR FEDERAL

GOVT. ZAWAWI SAID OMAN'S ARMY MIGHT TAKE SOME ROLE IN CONSTRUCTION THAT COULD RESULT HERE. AMBASSADOR UNDER-TOOK TO REPORT OMAN'S INTERFET AND SEE WHAT MIGHT BE DONE.

3. COMMENTS. WE KNOW THAT SOME ELEMENTARY STEPS ALONG THIS LINE HAVE FOR SOME TIME BEEN UNDER STUDY BY TETRA TECH CONSULTANTS HERE ON STAFF OF NATIONAL WATER RESOURCES COUNCIL (NWRC) AND POSSIBLY BY MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AS WELL. DETAILS ARE UNKNOWN. AN SUMCIT EMPLOYEE ON NWRC STAFF RECENTLY TOLD US HE HAD HEARD OMANGOV MIGHT BE ASKING USG FOR SOME HELPMGUT DOUBTED THIS REQUEST WOULD HAVE ARISEN OUT OF NWRC DELIBERATIONS. COULD BE IT IS ESSENTIALLY A PALACE INITIATIVE, FOR DR. OMAR ZAWAWI, AN ADVISER TO SULTAN, ALSO HAS MENTIONED IT TO US.

4. THIS WOULD BE USEFUL TOPIC TO PURSUE, EITHER WITH CORPS OF ENGINEERS OR BUREAU OF RECLAMATION. ARE QE HFCORRECT IN THINKING LATTER AGENCY HAS ALREADY DONE STUDIES OF TH U NATURE FOR UA\* UNDER AEGIS OF COUNTRY FINANCED AID? IF SO, WE WONDER WHAT RESULTS HAVE BEEN. WOULD IT NOT BE IN REALM OF POSSIBILITY FOR ONE OR MORE ENGINEERS, EITHER FROM CORPS IN SADIA ARABIA OR FROM BUREAU OF RECLDSMATION IF IT PRESENTLY ENGAGES IN OVERSEAS ACTIVITY, TO PAY VISIT HERE? THEY MIGHT

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STUDY LOCAL SITUATION, ESPECIALLY EFFORTS UNDERWAY IN NWRC, SIZE UP OMANGOV'S IN-HHOUSE CAPABILITIES, AND SUGGEST WHAT DIRECTIONS FUTURE EFFORT SHOULD TAKE. PLEASE ADVISE SO WE MAY REPLY TO ZAWAWI.  
WOLLE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS, DAMS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 11 apr 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Film Number:** D780155-0484  
**Format:** TEL  
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**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780470/aaaachrr.tel  
**Line Count:** 99  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** 169df0b2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 05 may 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** N/A  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3010311  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: OMAN SEEKS ASSISTANCE FOR US ARMY CORPS OR ENGINEERS  
**TAGS:** ECRE, MU, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/169df0b2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
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